# MARICOPA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 2035 North 52nd Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85008 (602) 273-1411 FAX (602) 275-1638 TT (602) 244-1409

FAX (602) 275-1638 TT (602) 244-1409 FACILITY IS NOT WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

# HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS SAFETY

# DID YOU KNOW YOU HAVE HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS IN YOUR HOME?

#### WHERE ARE THEY? (Examples)

Medicine Cabinet Aspirin, cough syrup, laxatives, vitamins, batteries, rubbing alcohol,

nail polish/remover, perfume/after shave, prescription drugs

Under the Sink Bleach, scouring powder, drain cleaner, disinfectant, oven cleaner,

mothballs, furniture polish

Garage Motor oil, batteries, transmission and brake fluids, antifreeze

Shed Paint, thinner, lacquer, glue, varnish, solvent, pesticides,

gasoline/fuels

#### WHAT ARE THE HAZARDS?

Poisonous If swallowed, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin. Some products

like bleach and cleanser release poisonous fumes when mixed.

Flammable If stored near a source of heat like a pilot light, fumes can ignite.

Corrosive Cause severe irritation or destruction of tissue.

Explosive If heated or mixed with another product.

# PRECAUTIONS TO TAKE!!!!

Always read the label. Read the directions on how to use, store and dispose of products safely.

Use products for their intended purpose only.

Protect yourself. Label may advise you wear gloves, apron, goggles, mask, respirator, etc.

DO NOT eat, drink, use cosmetics or touch your eyes, nose or mouth until you wash your hands with soap and water after using products.

DO NOT smoke. Fumes or vapors may be ignited.

Keep doors and windows open for proper ventilation. DO NOT use pesticide sprays on windy days.

DO NOT clean with any flammable liquids around water heaters or any appliance with pilot light or open flame.

Clean up spills immediately.

Never mix chemicals.

Take medications carefully. Read the label. Take as directed. Keep out of reach of children and animals.

Use "child-proof" packaging.

Store food, household chemicals and medications in separate, locked storage areas. Return them to their storage area immediately after use.

Clean out your medicine cabinet. Keep only current, necessary medicines.

Keep products in their original containers.

Store flammable and combustible materials in approved safety containers outside in shed.

Teach children not to put anything into their mouths except the food you give them.

Never tell children medicine is candy.

Many household plants are poisonous to children and pets. Keep all plants out of their reach and keep the identity on all plants.

Keep the Poison Control number by your telephone.

# POISON CONTROL 253-3334 or 1-800-362-0101

# PROPER DISPOSAL STEPS

DO NOT trade medications. Flush unused or out-of-date medications down the toilet.

Use up household chemicals, if possible, or give unused portions to friends if they can use them. Keep them in their original container.

Recycle motor oils and batteries. Check with your service station or take the products to a hazardous waste collection site.

Read label for disposal directions. If there are none, contact manufacturer, an environmental or sanitation agency, Food and Drug Administration or local fire department.

DO NOT pour wastes or leftovers down the drain or sewer, on the ground, or put them in the trash.

# REMEMBER

Improper disposal of household chemicals is hazardous to your health and the environment. Handle them safely and appropriately or they can cause death, illness, or environmental pollution.